


THE DESCRIPTION

of a Maske :

 Presented in the

Banqueting roome at *Whitehall*, on

Saint Stephens night last, At the Mariage of

the Right Honourable the Earle of

Somerset : And the right noble

the Lady *FRANCES*

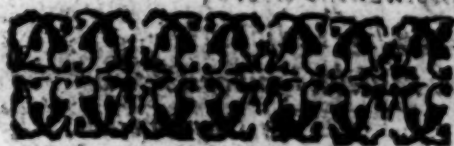
Howard.

Written by *Thomas Campion*.

Whereunto are annexed diuers choyle *and* composed

for this Maske that may be sung with a single voyce

to the Lute or Base-Viall.



LONDON

Printed by *E. A.* for *Laurence Lisle*, dwelling in *Pauls*
Church-yard, at the signe of the *Tigers head*.

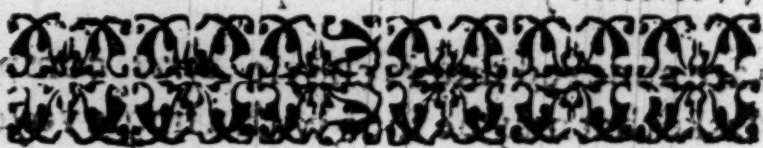
1614.



*Pulchro pulchra datur, socialis federe amanti
Tandem nubit amans; ecquid amabilius?*



*Vera ut supersint nuptiae
Prae duplici face:
Pretendat altera manducell
Hymen, altera par est Amor.*



*Vni ego malle placuisse docto,
Candido, et fastu sine iudicanti,
Millium quam millibus imperitorum
Ingratulum.*





The description of a Masque, Pre-
sented in the Banqueting roome at *Whitehall*,
On *St. Stephens* night last: At the Mariage
of the right Honourable the Earle of
Somerset, & the right noble the
Lady *Frances Howard*.

IN ancient times, whē
any man sought to shadowe or
heighten his Inuention, he had
store of feyned persons readie
for his purpose; As *Satyres*,
Nymphes & their like: such were
then in request and beliefe a-
mong the vulgar. But in our dayes, although they
haue not vtterly lost their vse, yet finde they so litle
credit, that our moderne writers haue rather trans-
ferd their fictions to the persons of Enchaunters &
Commaunders of Spirits, as that excellent Poet
Torquato Tasso hath done, and many others.

In imitation of them (having a presentation in
hand for Persons of high State) I grounded my
whole Inuention vpon Inchauntmens and severall
transformations: The work-manship whereof was

The Description of a Maske,

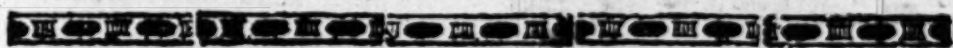
vndertaken by M. *Constantine* an Italian, Archite& to our late Prince *Henry*: but he being too much of himselfe, and no way to be drawne to impart his intentions, fayled so farre in the assurance he gaue, that the mayne inuention euen at the last cast, was of force drawne into a farre narrower compasse then was from the beginning intended: The description whereof as it was performed, I will as briefly as I can deliver. The place wherein the Maske was presented, being the Banquetting house at White Hall: the vpper part, where the State is placed, was Theatred with Pillars, Scaffolds, and all things answerable to the sides of the Roome. At the lower end of the Hall before the Sceane was made an Arch Tryumphall, passing beautifull, which enclosed the whole Workes: The Sceane it selfe (the Curtaine being drawne) was in this manner diuided.

On the vpper part there was formed a Skye with Clowdes very arteficially shadowed. On either side of the Sceane belowe was set a high Promontory, and on either of them stood three large pillars of golde: the one Promontory was bounded with a Rocke standing in the Sea, the other with a Wood; In the midst betwene them appeared a Sea in perspective with ships, some cunningly painted, some arteficially sayling. On the front of the Sceane, on either side was a beautifull garden, with fixe seates a peece to receaue the Maskers: behinde them the mayne Land, and in the midst a paire of stayres made exceeding curiously in the forme of a Schalop shell.

And

on S. Stephens night last.

And in this manner was the eye first of all entertay-
ned. After the King, Queene, and Prince were pla-
ced, and preparation was made for the beginning
of the Maske, there entred foure Squires, who as
soone as they approached neare the Presence, hum-
bly bowing themselves, spake as followeth.



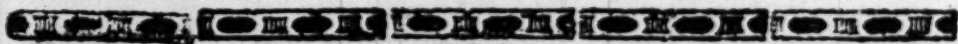
The first Squire.

That fruite that neither dreads the *Syrian* heats,
Nor the sharp frosts which churlish *Boreas* threats,
The fruite of *Peace*, and *Ioy* our wishes bring
To this high State, in a Perpetuall Spring.
Then pardon (Sacred Maiestie) our grieve
Vnseasonably that presseth for reliefe.
The ground wherof (if your blest eares can spare
A short space of Attention) we'le declare.

Great Honors Herralld *Fame* hauing Proclaym'd
This Nuptiall feast, and with it all enflam'd
From euery quarter of the earth three Knights
(In Courtship seene, as well as Martiall fights)
Assembled in the Continent, and there
Decreed this night A solemne Seruice here.
For which, by sixe and sixe imbarqu'd they were
In seuerall Keeles; their Sayles for *Britaine* bent.
But (they that neuer fauour'd good intent)
Deformed *Error* that enchaunting fiend,
And wing-tongu'd *Rumor* his infernall freind,
With *Curiositie* and *Credulitie*,
Both Sorceresses, all in hate agree

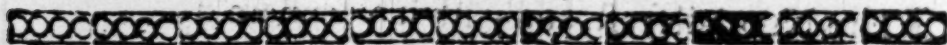
The Description of a Masque

Our purpose to divert, in vaine they strive,
For we in spite of them came neere t' arrive,
When suddenly (as Heaven and hell had met)
A storme confus'd against our Tackle beat,
Seuering the Ships: but after what befell
Let these relate, my tongue's too weake to tell.



The second Squire.

A Strange and sad Ostent our Knights distrest,
For while the Tempests fierye rage increast,
About our Deckes and Hatches, loe, appeare
Serpents, as *Lerna* had beene pour'd out there
Crawling about vs, which feare to eschew
The Knights the Tackle climb'd, and hung in view,
When violently a flash of lightning came,
And from our sights did beare them in the flame.
Which past, no Serpent there was to be seene,
And all was hush't, as storme had neuer beene.



The third Squire.

A T Sea, their mischeifes grewe, but ours at Land,
For being by chance arriu'd, while our Knights stand
To view their storme-toft friends on two Clifles neere,
Thence loe they vanish'd, and fixe Pillars were
Fixt in their footsteps, Pillars all of golde,
Fairst to our eyes, but wofull to beholde.

The fourth

on S. Stephens night.

The fourth Squire.

THus with prodigious hate and crueltie,
Our good Knights for their loue afflicted be,
But, ô protect vs now, Maiesticke Grace,
For see, those curst Enchanters presse in place
That our past sorrowes wrought: these, these alone
Turne all the world into confusion.

Towards the end of this speech, two Enchanters,
and two Enchanteresses appeare: *Error* first, in a
skin coate scaled like a Serpent, and an antick habit
painted with Snakes, a haire of curled Snakes, and
a deformed visard. With him *Rumor* in a skin coate
full of winged Tongues, and ouer it an antick robe,
on his head a Cap like a tongue, with a large paire
of wings to it.

Curiosity in a skin coate full of eyes, and an antick
habit ouer it, a fantastick Cap full of Eyes.

Credulity in the like habit painted with eares, and
an antick Cap full of eares.

When they had whispered a while as if they had
reioyced at the wrongs which they had done to the
Knights, the Musick and their Daunce began: strait
forth rusht the foure Windes confusedly, the Ea-
sterne winde in a skin coate of the colour of the Sun-
rising,

The Description of a Masque.

rising, with a yellow haire, and wings both on his shoulders and feete.

The Westerne Winde in a skin coate of darke crimson, with crimson haire and wings.

The Southerne Winde in a darke russet skin coate, haire and wings sutable.

The Northern winde in a grissled skin coate, with haire and wings accordingly.

After them in confusion came the foure Elements: *Earth*, in a skin coate of grasse greene, a mantle painted full of trees, plants, and flowers, and on his head an oke growing.

Water, in a skin coate waved, with a mantle full of fishes, on his head a Dolphin.

Ayre, in a skye-coloured skin coate, with a mantle painted with Fowle, and on his head an Eagle.

Fire, in a skin coate, and a mantle painted with flames : on his head a cap of flames, with a Salamander in the midst thereof.

Then entred the foure parts of the earth in a confused measure.

Europe in the habit of an Empresse, with an Imperiall Crowne on her head.

Asia

On S. Stephens night last.

Asia in a Persian Ladies habit with a Crowne on her head.

Africa like a Queene of the Moores, with a crown.

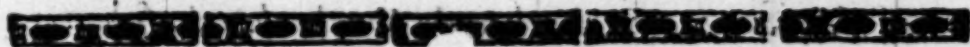
America in a skin coate of the colour of the iuyce of Mulberies, on her head large round brims of many coloured feathers, and in the midst of it a small Crowne.

All these having daunced together in a strange kinde of confusion; past away, by foure and foure.

At which time, *Eternity* appeared in a long blew Taffata robe, painted with Starres, and on her head a Crowne.

Next, came the three Destinies, in long robes of white Taffata like aged women, with Garlands of *Narcissus* Flowers on their heads, and in their left hands they caried distaffes according to the descriptions of *Plato* and *Catullus*, but in their right hands they carried altogether a Tree of Golde.

After them, came Harmony with nine Musicians more, in long Taffata robes and caps of Tinsell, with Garlandes, playing and singing this Song.



B

Chorus

The discription of a Maske

Chorus.

*Vanish, vanish hence confusion,
Dimme not Hymens goulden light
With false illusion.
The Fates shall doe him right,
And faire Eternitie,
Who passe through all enchantements free.*

Eternitie singes alone.

*Bring away this Sacred Tree,
The Tree of Grace, and Beautie,
Set it in Bel- Annas eye,
For she, she, only she
Can all Knotted spels untie.
Pull'd from the Stocke, let her blest Hands convey
To any suppliant Hand, a bough,
And let that Hand aduance it now
Against a Charme, that Charme shall fade away.*

Toward the ende of this Song the three, destinies
set the Tree of Golde before the Queene.

Chorus.

*Since Knightly valour rescues Dames distressed,
By Vertuous Dames, let charm'd Knights be released.*

After

on St. Stephens night.

After this Chorus, one of the
Squires speakes.

Since Knights by valour Rescue Dames distressed,
Let them be by the Queene of Dames releast:
So sing the Destinies, who neuer erre,
Fixing this Tree of Grace and Bountie heere,
From which, for our enchanted Knights we craue
A branche, pull'd by your Sacred Hand, to haue;
That we may beare it as the Fates direct,
And manifest your glory in the effect,
In vertues fauour then, and Pittie now,
(Great Queene) vouchsafe vs a diuine touch't bough.

At the end of this speech, the Queene puld a branch
from the Tree and gaue it to a Nobleman who deli-
uered it to one of the Squires.

*A Song while the Squires descend
With the bough, toward the Scene.*

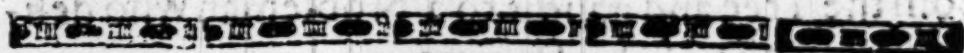
*Goe happy man like th' Evening Starre,
Whose beames to Bride-groomes well-come are.
May neither Hagge, nor Feind withstand
The pow're of thy Victorious Hand.
The Vncharmd Knights surrender now,
By vertue of thy raised Bough.*

*Away Enchantements, Vanish quite,
No more delay our longing fight:
'Tis fruitlesse to contend with Fate,
Who giues vs pow're against your hate.
Brave Knights, in Courtly pompe appeared,
For now are you long look't for heere.*

The description of a Maske

Then out of the ayre a cloude descends, discouering sixe of the Knights alike, in strange and sumptuous atires, and withall on either side of the Cloud, on the two Promontories, the other sixe Maskers are sodainly transformed out of the pillars of golde, at which time, while they all come forward to the dancing place, this Chorus is sung, & on the sodaine the whole Sceane is changed: for whereas before all seemed to be done at the sea and sea coast, now the Promontories are sodainly remooved, and London with the Thames is very arteificially presented in their place.

The Squire lifts vp the Bough.



Chorus.

*Vertue and Grace, in spight of Charmes,
Haue now redeemed our men at Armes.
Ther's no inchaunterment can withstand,
Where Fate directs the happy hand.*

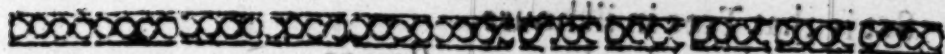
The Maskers first Dance.

*The third Song of three partes, with a Chorus of fine
partes, sung after the first Dance.*

VV Hile dancing rests, fit place to musicke graunting,
Good spels the Fates shall breath, at enuy daunting
Kind cares with Ioy enchanting, chaunting.

Chorus

on St. Stephens night.



Chorus.

Io, Io Hymen.

Like lookes, like hearts, like loues are linck't together,
So must the Fates be pleas'd, so come they hether,
To make this Ioy perseler euër.

Chorus.

Io, Io Hymen.

Loue decks the spring, her buds to th'ayre exposing,
Such fire here in these bridall Breasts reposing
We leaue with charmes enclosing, closing.

Chorus.

Io, Io Hymen.

The Maskers second Daunce.

The fourth Song a Dialogue of three with a Chorus
after the second Daunce.

- 1 **L** Et vs now sing of Loues delight,
For he alone is Lord to night.
- 2 Some friendship betweene man, and man prefer,
But I th'affection betweene man and wife.
- 3 What good can be in life,
Whereof no fruites appeare?

B 3

I Sec

The Description of a Masque

1 Set is that Tree in ill houre,
That yeilds neither fruite nor flowre.

2 How can man Perpetuall be,
but in his owne Posteritie?



Chorus.

That pleasure is of all most bountifull and kinde,
That fades not straight, but leaues a liuing Ioy behinde.

After this Dialogue the Maskers dauce with the Ladies, wherein spending as much time as they held fitting, they returned to the seates prouided for them.

Straight in the Thames appeared foure Barges with skippers in them, & withall this song was sung.

*Come a shore, come merrie mates,
With your pumble beeles, and pates:
Summoned by man his Knight,
Enough honour'd is this night.
Now, let your Sea-borne Goddesse come,
Quench these lights, and make all dombe.
Some sleepe, others let her call,
And so Godnight to all, godnight to all.*

At the conclusion of this song arriued twelue skippers in red capps, with short cassocks and long slopps wide at the knees, of white canvas striped with crimson, white gloves and Pomps, and red stockins:

on S. Stephens night.

stockins : these twelue daunced a brave and lively daunce, shouting and tryvmphing after their manner.

After this followed the Maskers last daunce, wherewith they retyred.

At the Embarking of the Knights, the Squires approach the state, and speake.



The first Squire.

All that was euer ask't, by vow of *Ioue*,
To blesse a state with, Plentie, Honor Loue,
Power, Triumph, priuate pleasure, publique peace,
Sweete springs, and *Antinous*'s filld with due increase,
All these; and what good els, thought can supplie.
Euer attend your Triple Maiestie.



The second Squire.

All blessings which the *Fates*, Propheticke Sung,
At *Pelens* Nuptialls, and what euer tongue
Can figure more, this night, and eue beride,
The honour'd Bride-groome, and the honourd Bride.

All the

The Description of a Maske.

All the Squires together.

Thus speakes in vs. th' affection of our Knights,
Wishing you health, and Miriads of goodnights.

The Squires speeches being ended, this Song is
Sung while the Boates passe away.

*Hast aboard, hast now away,
Hymen frownes, at your delay:
Hymen doth long nights affect;
Teild him then his due respect.
The Sea-borne Goddesse straght will come,
Quench these lights, and make all dombe.
Some Sleepe, others she will call,
And so godnight to all, godnight to all.*

FINIS.



A Y R E S,

Made by feuerall Authors:

AND

Sung in the Maske at the Marriage of the
Right Honourable ROBERT, Earle of Somerset,
and the Right Noble the Lady FRANCES
HOWARD.

Set forth for the Lute and Base Violl, and may be ex-
prest by a single voyce, to eyther of those Instruments.



L O N D O N :

Printed for *Laurence Lisle*, dwelling at the Signe of the
Tigers-head in *Pauls Church-yard*. 1614.

The first Song : made and exprest by M^r. *Nicholas Laneir*.



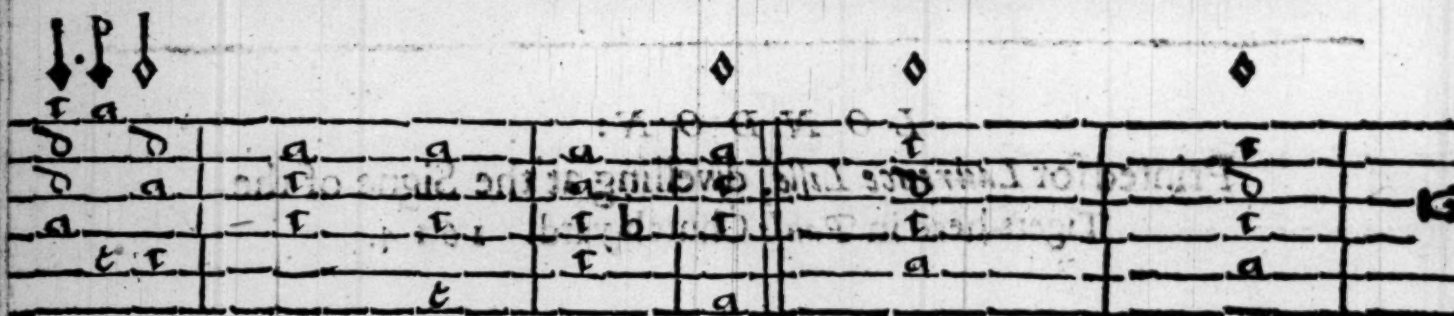
Ring a- way, bring a- way this sacred Tree,



the tree of grace and boun- tie, Set it in *Bel- Annae's*, eye : for shee, the onely

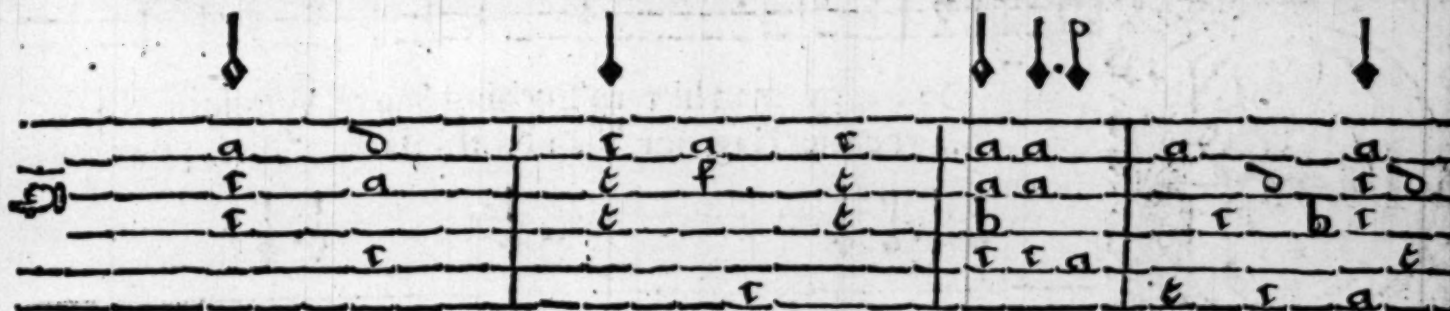


the onely, she can all knotted spels vn- tie. Pull'd from this stocke, let her blest





hand convey To any suppliant hand a bough, And let that hand ad-



uance it now Against a charme, that charme shall fade a- way.

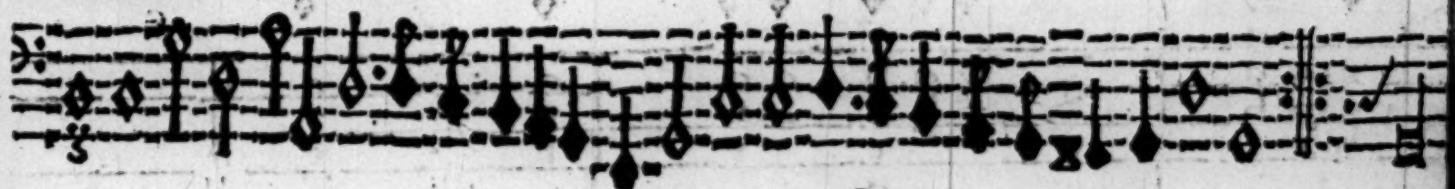


BASSO.

I.



Ring away.



C 2

These three Songs following were composed by Mr. Coprario,
and sung by Mr. John Allen, and Mr. Laureir.



Oe happy man like th'Eueing Starre, Whose beams to
May neither Hag nor Fiend with-stand, The power of



Bride- grooms welcome are,
thy vi- ctorious hand.

Th' vnchar- med Knights surren- der



now, By ver- tue of thy raised Bow.



- ms to
wer of
- 2 Away Enchantments; vanish quite:
No more delay our longing sight.
'Tis fruitlesse to contend with Fate,
Who giues vs power against your hate.
Braue Knights in Courtly pompe appeare,
For now are you long lookt for here.
- der

BASSO.

II



Oe happy man.



C 3



Hile dauncing rests fit place to Mu- sicke graun-



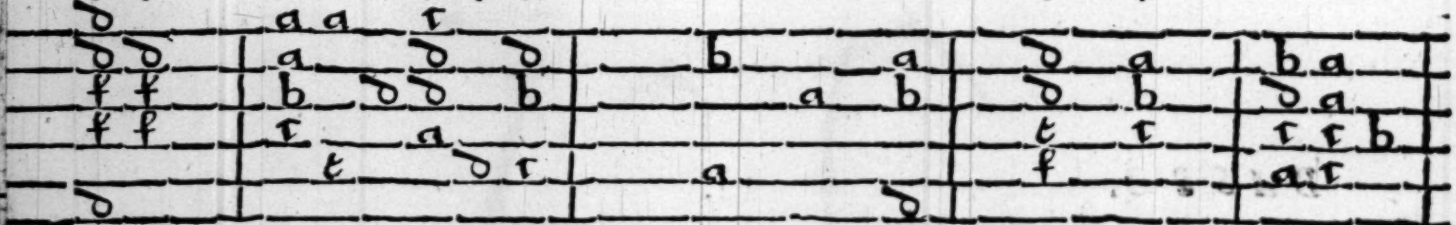
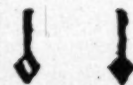
ting, Good spels the Fates shall breathe,

all

En-

uy

daun-



ting, Kind cares with ioy en-

chan- ting.

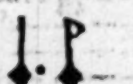
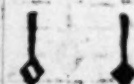
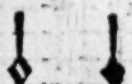
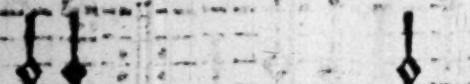
l o

l o

l o

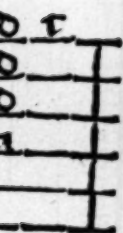
l o

l o

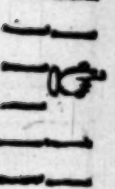
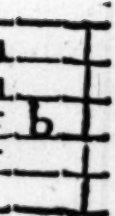




grain-



aun-



Hy- men, lo Hy- men.



- 2 Like looks, like hearts, like loves are linkt together.
So must the Fates be pleas'd, so come they hither.
To make this ioy perseuer.

lo lo Hymen.

- 3 Love decks the Spring, her buds to th'ayre exposing:
Such fire here in these Bridall breasts reposing,
They leaue with Charmes enclosing.

lo lo Hymen.

BASS O.

III.



Hile dancing.



3

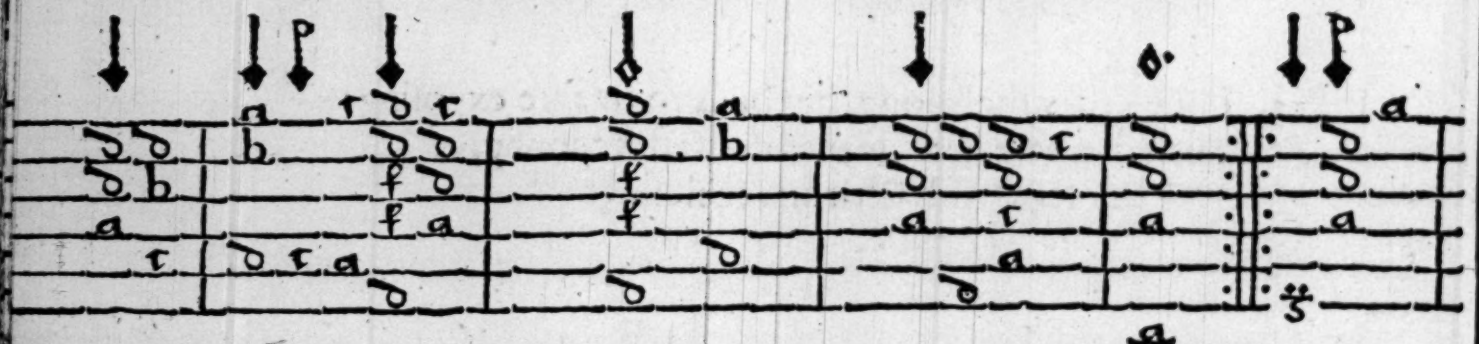
Camplon, J.



Ome a shore, come merry Mates, With your nimble heeles & pates,



Summon euery man his Knight, Enough ho-nour'd is this night. Now



let your sea-borne Goddess come, Quench these lights and make all dombe,



Some sleepe, others let her call, And so good night, good night to all. go

night, good night, good night, good night to all.

2 Hast abourd, hast now away:
Hymen frownes at your delay.
Hymen doth long nights affect;
Yield him then his due respect.

The Sea-borne Goddesse straight will come,
Quench those lights, and make all dumbe.
Some sleepe; others she will call;
And so good night to all, good night to all.

B A S S O.

I I I I.

Ome a shore.

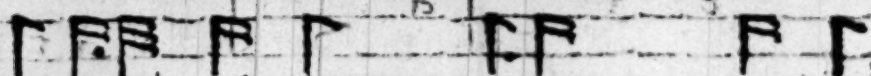
D

CANTO.

A Song, made by *Th. Campian*, and sung in the *Entes Maske* at the *Count Palatines* Marriage, we haue here added, to fill vp these empty Pages.

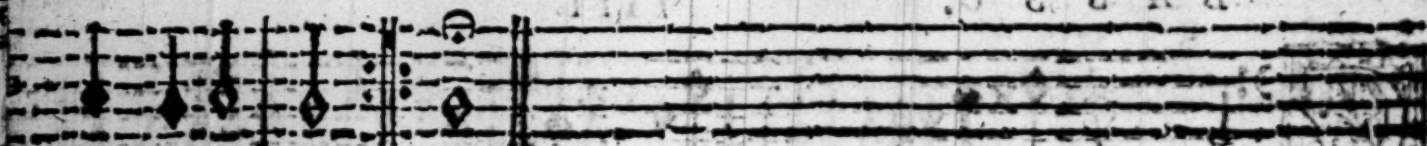
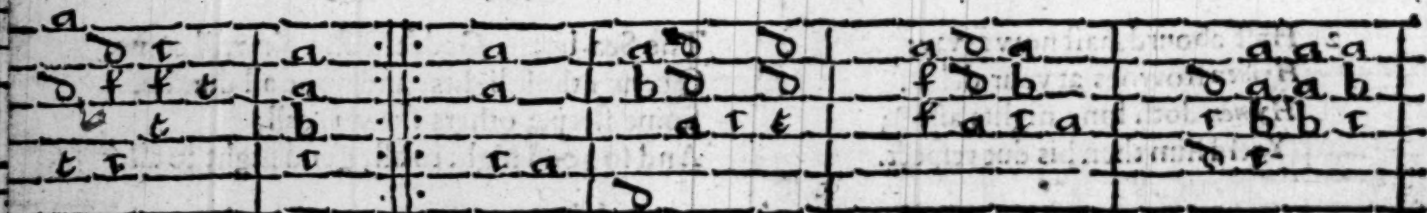


Ooe her and win her hee that can, Each wo- man
So she must take and leave a man, Till time more

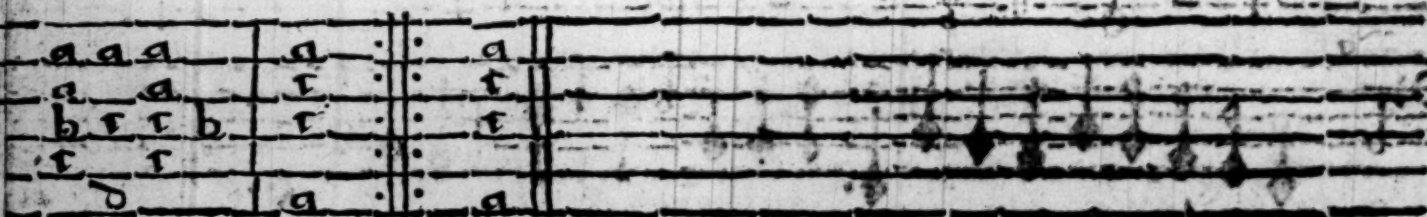
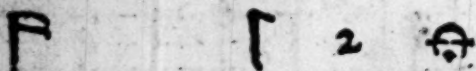


hath two Lo- uers:
grace dis- co- uers,

This doth *lose* to shew that want makes beau- tie
If faire Women were more scant, they would be



more respe- cted.
more affe- cted.



2 Courtship and Musicke fute with Loue,
 They both are workes of passion :
 Happy is hee whose words can moue,
 Yet sweet Notes help perswasion.
 Mixe your words with Musicke then,
 That they the more may enter :
 Bold assaults are fit for men,
 That on strange beauties yenter.

BASSO.

V.



FINIS.

Campion, T.



The Names of the Maskers.

- 1 **T**HE Duke of Lennox.
- 2 The Earle of Pembroke.
- 3 The Earle of Dorset.
- 4 The Earle of Salisbury.
- 5 The Earle of Mountgomerie.
- 6 The Lord Walden.
- 7 The Lord Scrope.
- 8 The Lord North.
- 9 The Lord Hayes.
- 10 Sir Thomas Howard.
- 11 Sir Henry Howard.
- 12 Sir Charles Howard.

FINIS.

FINIS

8



• r. quord...